




**MINERALS PROGRAM INSPECTION REPORT**  
**PHONE: (303) 866-3567**

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety has conducted an inspection of the mining operation noted below. This report documents observations concerning compliance with the terms of the permit and applicable rules and regulations of the Mined Land Reclamation Board.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> 23 1/4 West Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2020-035	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Mesa
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Amy Yeldell	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> December 17, 2020	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 10:15
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Elam Construction, Inc.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Jim Doody	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$288,111.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> DRMS	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> December 30, 2020	

**GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS**

Several of the following inspection topics were identified as having a **Problem (PB)**, which includes correction actions and a deadline whereby the Operator must demonstrate compliance with the conditions of the Permit and the requirements of the Act and Rules. Failure to address the corrective actions by the deadline may cause the Division to escalate the Problem to a Possible Violation (PV) and schedule the issue for formal hearing before the Mined Land Reclamation Board (Board).

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>NA</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>NA</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>NA</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>NA</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>PB</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>NA</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>NA</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>NA</u>	

Y = Inspected / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / PB = Problem cited / PV = Possible violation cited

**INSPECTION TOPIC:** Signs & Markers

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem: The mine identification sign was not posted at the entrance of the mine site. This is a problem for failure to post a mine identification sign as required by Section 3.1.12(1) of the rule. The Operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site post a sign, which shall be clearly visible from the access road, with a minimum size equaling one hundred and eighty-seven (187) square inches, such as eleven (11) inches in height and seventeen (17) inches in width, with appropriate font size, with the following: the name of the Operator, a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board; and the permit number.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site, post a sign which shall be clearly visible from the access road with the following: the name of the operator, a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board; and the permit number. The operator shall submit photo documentation that a proper sign has been posted by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 3/01/21

**OBSERVATIONS**

This inspection was conducted as part of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) normal monitoring program. The 23.25 West Pit is a 112c permitted site that includes a total of 49.5 permitted acres. The site is located one mile west of Grand Junction and is accessed from River Road. Jim Doody of Elam Construction, Inc. represented the operator and accompanied Amy Yeldell of the Division on the inspection.

A mine identification sign was not observed. This is cited as a problem pursuant to Rule 3.1.12. Now that a permit has been issued a mine sign shall be affixed at the permit boundary entrance. The Operator shall send the Division photo documentation by the corrective action date listed on page two of this report.

Mining has recently commenced in Area 2 located on the east side of the permit directly north of Orchard Grove Industrial Pit (M-1990-094). The pit was active at the time of the inspection. Material was observed being stripped with an excavator and hauled via truck to be used as backfill material at Orchard Grove Industrial Pit. As a reminder 23.25 West Pit, Area 2, post-mining land use is rangeland so sufficient backfill shall be retained for final reclamation.

Small amounts of water was observed on the western side of the excavated Area 2 pit. No dewatering of the 23.25 West Pit shall enter the Orchard Grove Industrial Pit without documentation of approval from CDPHE. If dewatering is necessary prior to written approval, a new sediment pond should be built in the northwestern corner of Area 2 as shown in the mining maps.

Area 1 remains undisturbed. The structures identified in the permit application remain on site and have yet to be removed. The Division also observed the raptor nest identified by CPW. Given the timing of this inspection no birds were observed during the inspection.

No fuel was observed on site. Currently there is no production equipment, buildings or scales on site associated

with mining. Mr. Doody indicated that as Orchard Grove Industrial Pit's mining concludes resources will be moved to Area 1 of the 23.25 West Pit. Rubble/imported inert material that was previously scattered throughout Area 2 has been cleared. A few small piles remain, one of asphalt and a pile of cement that needs debris removed.

The Division currently holds a financial warranty amount of \$ 288,111 for this site.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203. Direct contact can be made by phone at 303-866-3567 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

**Inspection Contact Address**

Jim Doody  
Elam Construction, Inc.  
556 Struthers Avenue  
Grand Junction, CO 81501

Enclosure

CC:  
Travis Marshall, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS

**PHOTOGRAPHS**







Photo Two: Exposed groundwater in Area 2



Photo Three: Undisturbed Area 1

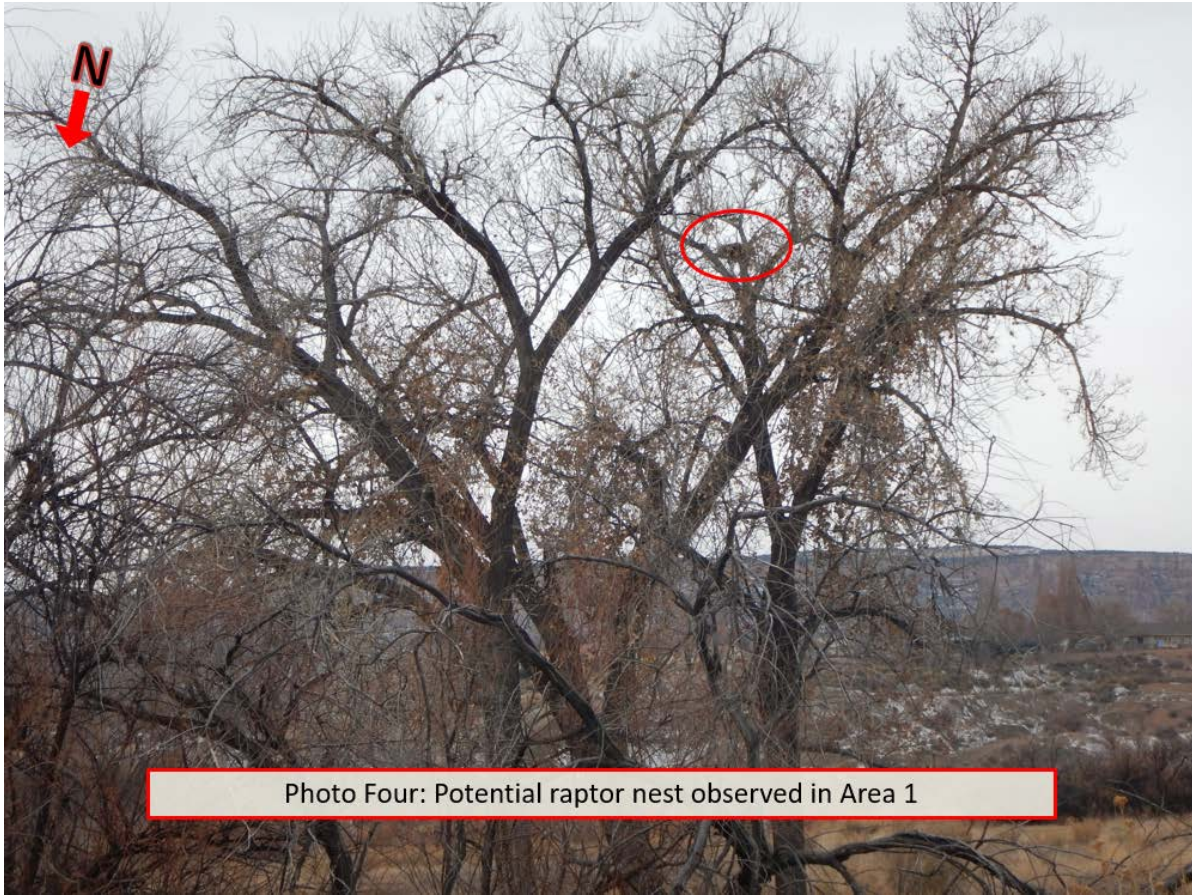


Photo Four: Potential raptor nest observed in Area 1